

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2061

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FOR ARA/LA/BC/B - R. PACE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, BL

SUBJ: VISIT OF GOB SUB-SECRETARY OF FINANCE

1. DAVID BLANCO, SUB-SECRETARY IN GOB MINISTRY OF FINANCE, WILL BE ATTENDING BOLIVIAN CEPSES REVIEW IN WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 20 TO 24. BLANCO HAS BEEN DISCUSSING WITH POL/ECOM OFFICER THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF ISSUING GOVERNMENT BONDS AND TREASURY NOTES AND HOW US GOVERNMENT IS ORGANIZED FOR THIS. THE MINISTRY IS PLANNING TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICE WHICH WOULD EVENTUALLY ISSUE SUCH DEBT INSTRUMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING GOB INVESTMENT PROJECTS AND RAISING THE LEVEL OF DOMESTIC SAVINGS. BLANCO HAS ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE WHILE HE IS IN WASHINGTON FOR HIM TO MEET WITH OFFICIALS IN TREASURY DEPARTMENT AND PERHAPS THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD TO OBTAIN SOME INFORMATION ON HOW US GOVERNMENT GOES ABOUT ISSUING DEBT INSTRUMENTS, DETERMINING THEIR INTEREST RATES, ETC.

2. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ARRANGING ONE OR TWO MEETINGS FOR BLANCO WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS ON THIS SUBJECT. MEETINGS WOULD HAVE TO COINCIDE WITH THE BOLIVIAN DELEGATION'S SCHEDULE FOR CEPSES. PERHAPS SOME WRITTEN MATERIAL ON THE US

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SYSTEM COULD BE SUPPLIED TO HIM AT THAT TIME OR IF

SUCH INFORMATION WERE READILY AVAILABLE, IT COULD
BE SENT TO EMBASSY PRIOR TO CEPSES MEETING FOR
DELIVERY TO BLANCO.

3. FYI - BLANCO IS YOUNG, INTELLIGENT, DYNAMIC AND
ONE OF A SMALL GROUP OF CIVILIANS WHO ADVISE PRESIDENT
BANZER ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC MATTERS. HE IS
SURELY DESTINED TO REMAIN A VERY SENIOR OFFICIAL IN
THIS AND FUTURE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENTS. FOR THIS
REASON, EMBASSY HAS CONSIDERED HIM FOR SOME TIME AS
GOOD POTENTIAL CANDIDATE FOR A LEADER GRANT ALTHOUGH
WE HAVE NOT ADVISED HIM OF THIS. WE ARE THINKING
THAT IF BLANCO WERE INTERESTED, WE COULD ARRANGE,
AT A LATER DATE, A LEADER GRANT VISIT WHICH WOULD
INCLUDE A MORE EXTENSIVE ORIENTATION IN WASHINGTON
WITH TREASURY DEPARTMENT, THE FRB, AND THE SEC ON
VARIOUS ASPECTS OF DEBT INSTRUMENTS AS WELL AS
PERHAPS VISITS TO SOME STATE GOVERNMENTS AND
UNIVERSITY ECONOMIC SCHOOLS ON THIS AS WELL AS
BROADER ECONOMIC SUBJECTS. WE HAVE POINTED OUT TO
BLANCO THAT GIVEN THE SOPHISTICATED NATURE OF US
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ISSUANCE OF DEBT INSTRUMENTS,
PERHAPS DEBT INSTRUMENT OPERATIONS OF STATES WOULD
BE MORE APPROPRIATE EXAMPLE FOR BOLIVIA.

4. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER INTERVIEWS REQUESTED IN
PARA 2 CAN BE ARRANGED.
STEDMAN

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